

Rolf Dietrich
1450 Fountain Glen Drive
Bel Air, MD 21015

city mgr
Fire Chief
Airport Mgr
Good News!

20 November 2005

Mayor Jim Dailey
Office of the Mayor
500 West Markham, Room 203
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NOV 28 2005

Dear Mayor Dailey,

This letter is to bring to your attention some wonderful aspects of the people of Little Rock that I experienced during a very difficult time for me. The people of Little Rock saved my life, restored my health, and made my experience as enjoyable as possible.

On 10 November 2005 I was on my way home from a business trip to Pine Bluff. I was standing in line at security in the Little Rock National airport when I passed out with no warning; my heart had stopped. According to my doctors, what I suffered from is called "Sudden Death Syndrome." It is called that because, without prompt and correct action, people who suffer from it do not recover.

I was fortunate that there were two quick-thinking and quick-acting people nearby. Officer Bill Denio of the Little Rock Police Department and Mr. Ray Kinney of the TSA noticed the crowd that gathered, evaluated the situation, and promptly began administering CPR. A defibrillator was brought Michael Smith, an American pilot, and attached to my body. It recommended a shock, which was administered. CPR continued. The defibrillator recommended a second shock, which was also administered. Officer Denio, Mr. Kinney, and Mr. Smith continued to tend to my needs until the arrival of the ambulance crew.

I was also fortunate that this event occurred near an excellent medical facility for heart problems. The ambulance crew took me to St. Vincent's hospital where I was seen by outstanding medical practitioners, Doctor Charles Clogston and then Doctor Mike Bauer who conducted quadruple bypass open heart surgery. I started recovery quickly in the cardiac care unit, where I was impressed by the professionalism, caring, and graciousness of the entire staff. Eight days after surgery I had recovered enough to fly home.

I certainly appreciate the care and professionalism the people of Little Rock provided to a stranger from Maryland.

Sincerely,

